

20031226.qrp v03_n146.qrl.20031226

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 19:03:13 EST
From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: QRP-L digest 3146

QRP-L Digest 3146

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- 1) [163829] Looking for Sidekick Rcvr Kit
by Pete Meier <pmeier@mac.com>
- 2) [163830] Paddles
by "Francis Callahan" <colcal@srv.net>
- 3) [163831] Az Scorpion Frequency Counter Questions
by "Henry Freedenberg" <henryf@quartz.gly.fsu.edu>
- 4) [163832] Re: WTB Paddles
by Hank Kohl K8DD <k8dd@arrl.net>
- 5) [163833] Re: Tenna Dipper Question
by Chuck Carpenter <w5usj@9plus.net>
- 6) [163834] Re: J-38's & E. F. Johnson
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
- 7) [163835] Re: Straight key source
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- 8) [163836] Re: straight key before paddle?
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
- 9) [163837] Re: Study of Morse code...another view
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- 11) [163839] Re: straight key before paddle
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
- 12) [163840] Re: Tenna Dipper Question
by Tayloe Dan-P26412 <Dan.Tayloe@motorola.com>
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by "Nick Kennedy" <wa5bdu@tcainternet.com>
- 14) [163842] Re: Straight key source
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- 18) [163846] Re: Straight key source
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- by Eric Swartz WA6HHQ - Elecraft <eric@elecraft.com>
- 20) [163848] Re: Single-lever paddles
by "Tony Martin W4FOA" <w4foa@comcast.net>
 - 21) [163849] Re: Single-lever paddles
by "Pastor-kc1di" <elbc2@gwi.net>
 - 22) [163850] BC QRM on 80 meters
by Joseph Mikuckis <k3chp@rcn.com>
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by John Sielke <jsielke@pobox.com>
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by "Alan Fryer" <N3BJ@hotmail.com>
 - 25) [163853] Re: Straight key source
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
 - 26) [163854] Re: WTB: Wilderness Sierra
by Dan Wolfe <n4roa@mounet.com>
 - 27) [163855] Re: Single-lever paddles
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
 - 28) [163856] Re: Single-lever paddles
by Ted Albert <ted.albert@fuse.net>
 - 29) [163857] RE: Study of Morse code
by "TF3VS" <tf3vst@vortex.is>
 - 30) [163858] RE: Single-lever paddles
by "Michael Bower N4NMR" <bowerm@ix.netcom.com>
 - 31) [163859] Re: Single-lever paddles
by "Andy Palm" <acpalm@concentric.net>
 - 32) [163860] Re: Your milliwatt results ?
by Larry Cahoon <lejek@erols.com>
 - 33) [163861] Re: Straight key source
by "Nick Kennedy" <wa5bdu@tcainet.net>
 - 34) [163862] s9+ carrier on 10.104 MHz
by "Rod N0RC" <rc7039-hr@yahoo.com>
 - 35) [163863] RE: Study of Morse code
by Dale Botkin <dale@botkin.org>
 - 36) [163864] RE: Single-lever paddles
by "Sverre Holm" <svholm2@broadpark.no>
 - 37) [163865] XGA1 Built and Working
by Ed Lawson <k1vp@grizzly.com>
 - 38) [163866] Re: [RE: Single-lever paddles]
by Michael Goins <mgoins@usa.net>
 - 39) [163867] Looking for HW-9 Articles
by Al Scanandoah <k2zn@rochester.rr.com>
 - 40) [163868] RE: [Elecraft] s9+ carrier on 10.104 MHz
by "Augie Hansen" <augie.hansen@comcast.net>
 - 41) [163869] Re: straight key before paddle
by Alex <kr1st@amsat.org>
 - 42) [163870] Do you have the Sept 1972 issue of Hamradio?
by Alex <kr1st@amsat.org>
 - 43) [163871] Re: Single-lever paddles

- by "Charles W3KC" <w3kc@starpower.net>
- 44) [163872] Carrier on 10.104?
by "Mike Duke, K5XU" <k5xu@jam.rr.com>
- 45) [163873] RE: Carrier on 10.104?
by "Fred \((VE3FAL\)" <flesnick@tbaytel.net>
- 46) [163874] Frustrated!
by "NR5A" <nr5a@rap.midco.net>
- 47) [163875] adaptors
by "carl seyersdahl" <carlseye@tampabay.rr.com>
- 48) [163876] Re: Do you have the Sept 1972 issue of Hamradio?
by "Chris Trask" <christrask@earthlink.net>
- 49) [163877] Re: straight key before paddle
by John Sielke <jsielke@pobox.com>
- 50) [163878] Morse HELL (of sorts)
by Richard Lim <richlim11@yahoo.com>
- 51) [163879] Hotweezers
by Lee Mairs <lmairs@direcway.com>
- 52) [163880] Re: Carrier on 10.104?
by "Don Wines" <dwines@tyler.net>
- 53) [163881] [CONTEST] N2CQ QRP Contest Calendar Dec 27-31, 2003
by "Ken Newman" <n2cq@dandy.net>
- 54) [163882] Re: Single-lever paddles
by Bob Nielsen <nielsen@oz.net>
- 55) [163883] Re: Single-lever paddles
by Bob Nielsen <nielsen@oz.net>
- 56) [163884] AZ ScQRPion Paddles
by "ki0ky" <ki0ky@earthlink.net>
- 57) [163885] Digi tall Dial
by Ed <edw3nr@nexband.com>
- 58) [163886] Power Supply
by Ed <edw3nr@nexband.com>
- 59) [163887] Re: Do you have the Sept 1972 issue of Hamradio?
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
- 60) [163888] Re: Single-lever paddles
by "carl seyersdahl" <carlseye@tampabay.rr.com>
- 61) [163889] MQFD and OQRP
by John Sielke <jsielke@pobox.com>
- 62) [163890] RE: Straight key source
by Rick McKee <kc8aon@juno.com>

Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 16:09:26 -0500
From: Pete Meier <pmeier@mac.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [163829] Looking for Sidekick Rcvr Kit
Message-ID: <9F1C55D4-371E-11D8-B74C-000A95799708@mac.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0 (Apple Message framework v609)

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Anyone have a Sidekick Receiver Kit they decided not to build and willing to sell?

Please respond off the list with your asking price.

Thanks

Pete WK8S

Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 14:43:04 -0700
From: "Francis Callahan" <colcal@srv.net>
To: <QRP-L@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [163830] Paddles
Message-ID: <002501c3cb30\$25e88510\$9cce1341@DJKTLQ31>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thanks for all the suggestions on getting a set of paddles. Just figgured it was time to trt some thing besides he J-48 72 Cal KF7ET mosplaced Vermonter in Idaho

Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 16:50:02 -0500
From: "Henry Freedenberg" <henryf@quartz.gly.fsu.edu>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU, fpqrp-l@mpna.com
Subject: [163831] Az Scorpion Frequency Counter Questions
Message-ID: <3FEB153A.5411.3707D3@localhost>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Content-description: Mail message body

Best of the Season to everyone....

Since I am a man of leisure until Jan 5, I decided to try to work down the kit inventory on the shelf in the workshop.

First to be assembled was the Az Sqrpion stinger singer frequency counter.

I can't tell if it works or not. I power it up (no input connected) but I don't hear anything on the piezo speaker....no startup sequence, no freq readout, nothing.

I modified the circuit to include an on/off switch and a power indicator LED. When power is the connected, the led comes on and all bias voltages are where they should be on the various components.

Also, the piezo element is supposed to be driven by pin 3 of the 74HC00. On the board I received, there was a trace leading from pin 3 to a through hole. Unlike the other holes on the board, this one was not plated. Similarly, there is a unplated thorough hole connected to the spkr output on the board. I suspect that there needs to be a jumper between these unplated holes. After my initial lack of success, I tried to connect a jumper directly from pin 3 of the 74HC00 but it still did not work. Bias voltages are OK and the passive stuff is probably OK. This pretty well leaves a bad xtal or bad ic's.

Also, the piezo element that came with the kit contains 3 pre-soldered leads (not 2 as in the diagram). The supplied leads are too short and repeatedly pulled off when opening the altoids case to work on the circuit board. I eventually wound up replacing two fo the leads and forgetting about the third.

Any suggestions would be appreciated.

Henry

Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 16:37:24 -0500
From: Hank Kohl K8DD <k8dd@arrl.net>
To: colcal@srv.net
Cc: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [163832] Re: WTB Paddles
Message-ID: <6.0.1.1.2.20031225162852.0b5222d8@mail.arenet.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

At 12/25/2003 06:04 AM, you wrote:

>I am looking for a cheap set of really small paddles I am goint to try to
>learn them as I have only used the J 38 for the past 25 years Thanks and
>Season 's Greetings to everyone Cal KF7ET

Just another opinion from my side of the keyer paddles!
I don't think there are any cheap paddles that are much good - good being
smooth, especially at higher speeds.

If inexpensive is the main criteria, I would get another J-38 and put two of
them back to back in a vertical position. Seems to me that you would get
a smoother paddle than with the low priced paddles (less than \$60 & ++).

Of the "small" paddles, it seems to me that Palm and Lil Paddlette are
two of the better commercial ones.

Otherwise I think I'd wait until I could afford something like Brown Bros,
Kent, Vibroplex, Bencher, or something similar.

73 Hank K8DD

Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 16:13:01 -0600
From: Chuck Carpenter <w5usj@9plus.net>
To: ve1dy@myway.com,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [163833] Re: Tenna Dipper Question
Message-ID: <3.0.2.32.20031225161301.0069b04c@mail.9plus.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Paul,

The dipper might be used to find resonance without the need to determine if
it is matched. The connection to the antenna is one side of a classic
bridge circuit. There are 3 known values and one unknown -- the input to
the antenna. A null is indicated when the bridge is balanced by the
unknown being equal. That is, when the input to the feed line is equal to
the value of the three known resistors. In the dipper bridge, this is
close to 50 ohms. The LED might not dim enough to determine resonance with
the 300 or 20 ohm unknowns. If you changed each of the 3 known values to
300 or to 20 that might work. There are a couple of other values around
the bridge circuit that might need changing too.

At 05:19 AM 12/25/03 -0500, Paul, VE1DY wrote:

>
>If I wanted to use the tenna dipper to find the resonance of a folded
dipole, could I change the 50 ohm resistor to 300 ohms and then look for
the led to dim?
>
>If I was looking for the resonance of a mobile antenna and figured the
impedance to be around 20 ohms, could I change the 50 ohm resistor to say
20 ohms and then look for a dip.
>
>I was thinking of a variable resistor or several resistors on a switch. Is
this practical?
>
>Thanks and Merry Christmas to all.
>
>73, 72... Paul
>
>
>
>-----
>No banners. No pop-ups. No kidding.
>Introducing My Way - <http://www.myway.com>
>

Chuck Carpenter, W5USJ, Point, Rains Co., TX - EM22cv, NETXQRP #1
QRP-ARCI #5422, QRP-L #1306, QRPp-I #115, ARS #1280, SOC #57
Zombie #759, COG #11, 6 Club #201, FP #601 <http://www.netxqrp.org>

Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 17:53:16 -0500
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: kc8aon@juno.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [163834] Re: J-38's & E. F. Johnson
Message-ID: <3FEB6A5C.46961BD2@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Rick,

Pardon me for asking, but what proof do you have that your J-38 was
made by E. F. Johnson? Your key sounds suspiciously like mine. My key
was made by Lionel, the toy train maker. Turn your key over and see if
there is not an "L" in a circle on the back. here might also be "L's"
in circles stamped into the brass base.

E. F. Johnson made a key very similar to the J-38 for sale to the ham

market as a new key. I have one somewhere without the bakelite base but I have never seen one mounted on bakelite. But the key is made entirely of "silver" base metal.

The J-38 was originally made as a training key for the government. The original production runs were made by Lionel and Bunnell, I think. A third manufacturer made some production runs during the Korean Conflict, but the keys are not nearly as well finished as the early WW2 production.

I bought mine new in the box from Olson Radio about 1954-55. I paid the princely sum of 79 cents for this jewel! By the way, so far as I know the J-38 never saw combat use. Too many moving springs and things. In combat they would only get lost!

So, please fill me in...

Bruce

Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 18:12:13 -0500
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: sigcom@juno.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [163835] Re: Straight key source
Message-ID: <3FEB6ECD.DAA74E57@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

As I said in an earlier message, the original WW2 production of J-38 keys was split up among two or three different vendors, Lionel Manufacturing being one. Lionel manufactured model trains at the time.

I have an original Lionel model which I bought when I was first licensed in 1956. I paid 79 cents for this "key that filled a thousand dreams"! I believe the Lionel to have been among the best finished of all the J-38's. This was probably due to their experience building model trains, where finish is next to godliness!

The reason I see behind their smooth action is they were made to be used as a training key. They trained hundreds of young radio operators!

I also have heard that there was another production run to support the Korean Conflict trainees. These may be the Artec keys. I gave a second J038 if undocumented manufacture and can say the action is nowhere near

the Lionel's.

Lionell also made some of the J-36 bugs. This was a design by another bug manufacturer. I have a Lionel which I bought because it went with my J038 and because I am a model train enthusiast. Unfortunately I only bought this about 1995. They had suffered some appreciation by then, I had to pay over \$100 for it!

73

Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 18:27:49 -0500
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: jsielke@pobox.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [163836] Re: straight key before paddle?
Message-ID: <3FEB7275.26C0AB5E@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Ya know, this has been a significant thread for me. I learned on a straight key, a J-38 in fact. I went up through the bug to a keyer and paddle. In fact I went through a single lever paddle to an iambic paddle. I am definitely "old school" having learned CW when radios glowed in the dark so you could find the rocks!

I used to think that if you didn't learn on a straight key you didn't know CW. This thread and the postings I have made in response to them have caused me to rethink that position. The reasons I used a straight key had very little to do with learning. They had so much more to do with availability and economics, and the fact that back then no one used the words Novice and bug or electronic keyer in the same sentence!

Now it makes very little, almost no, difference to me which is used to teach or learn the code. I will admit to a slight feeling of superiority at my skill with a straight key. I feel that my experience with the straight key and the bug make me a more complete CW operator (what else is there). BUT in the end the only important issue is whether you got enough off the air practice with your weapon of choice before you cluttered up the bands!

73

Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 18:42:05 -0500
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: myetsko@insydesw.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [163837] Re: Study of Morse code...another view
Message-ID: <3FEB75CD.971C39A6@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Mike,

>
> Now with the relaxation of CW requirements, there really IS
> justification for learning 'right', and learning so that you can advance
> as the criteria more than just 'getting in'.
>

P don't understand your argument. Are you saying that any of us old
timer's learned the code just to "get in"? Why then didI waste all
that effort to learn and pass the 13 and 20 wpm test? Or are you
saying that today's learners are not just as likely to "get in" with 5
wpm.

While I believe that good CW operators can be taught, after all I think
I am pretty good and I'm almost entirely self taught, I believe the
important issue is whether the learner has any interest in CW. After
all, I could have dropped learning the code at any time in my first 25
years and bought a microphone. But I was never able to figure out how
they worked!

Please enlighten me...

73

Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 19:07:53 -0500
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: kg6cyn@softhome.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [163838] Re: Study of Morse code...another view
Message-ID: <3FEB7BD9.BADD6B1A@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Pardon my ignorance. I thought everyone who wanted to learn the code knew they had to learn it by sound. That's how it is used. That's how you hear it on the air. It stands to reason that's how you have to learn it. If you were going to be using it on the bridge of a ship you would best be served by learning it by sight!

Now spacing and speed are different things. Until about the mid 70's the standard was to teach the code at about 5 wpm. Spacing could be anything from 5 wpm to 1 character per day! Yes there were some studies in teaching at a faster speed but they didn't catch on until after the mid 70's so far as I know.

Spacing could have been at character speed or using farnsworth. I learned at a slow speed and used the farnsworth method until I knew the entire character set and was ready to start copying off the air. I believe that copying off the air is the only way to really learn the code. That way it comes complete with QRM and QRN, just the way you will use it! I believe computer generated learning systems are just that, learning systems. They are useful until you know the code, then switch to a receiver!

The code is simple yet complex. Too many people, myself probably included, have made it more complex than it should be!

73

Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 19:20:00 -0500
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: kr1st@amsat.org, qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [163839] Re: straight key before paddle
Message-ID: <3FEB7EB0.8809BA0@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Alex,

There is only one method of developing a fist you won't be picking out of your eye. Practice off the air until you can send 5 minutes of perfect CW without making an error. Then, and only then, should you go on the air. Would you go off to war without a thorough understanding of, and proficiency with, your rifle? I believe this concept has been discarded from most learner's guides.

Bruce

Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 18:40:13 -0700
From: Tayloe Dan-P26412 <Dan.Tayloe@motorola.com>
To: "'ve1dy@myway.com'" <ve1dy@myway.com>
Cc: "'qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [163840] Re: Tenna Dipper Question
Message-ID: <7FD24C15A06DD511BF9E00D0B73E99520D734E3C@az33exm05.corp.mot.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

If you know the expected resistance of the antenna at resonance, this idea will work. You do not need to change all three resistors, just the one on the antenna side, as I think you are hinting at. The LED will go out when it sees a load matching the selected resistor.

Switching in several difference resistances might be physically difficult. Once suggestion would be to steal some machined pins out of a nice IC socket and use a pair of them as a plug in socket for a selected set of resistors.

- Dan, N7VE

>If I wanted to use the tenna dipper to find the resonance of a
>folded dipole, could I change the 50 ohm resistor to 300 ohms
>and then look for the led to dim?
>
>If I was looking for the resonance of a mobile antenna and
>figured the impedance to be around 20 ohms, could I change the
>50 ohm resistor to say 20 ohms and then look for a dip.
>
>I was thinking of a variable resistor or several resistors on a
>switch. Is this practical?
>
>Thanks and Merry Christmas to all.
>
>73, 72... Paul

Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 22:17:07 -0600
From: "Nick Kennedy" <wa5bdu@tcainternet.com>

To: "'Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [163841] RE: [qrp-l] Tenna Dipper Question
Message-ID: <001801c3cb67\$205160e0\$0400000a@wa5bdu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I'd say yes you could, but ideally you'd change not one but three resistors. The bridge has three nominal 50 ohm resistors plus the unknown input as the fourth leg. So you'd change R5, R6, R7 to 300 ohms, 20 ohms, or whatever.

Actually though, all four legs don't have to be equal to get the balance, just the two pairs that are symmetrically opposite. So I guess you could just change R7. Is that what you had in mind?

The interesting question is, where (in terms of impedance) will the bridge null out if you don't change the circuit and the input is 20 ohms resistive at resonance? At 50 ohms, or at some other value? Hmmm ...

Schematic is here:

http://www.qsl.net/kd1jv/tenna_dipper.HTM

72 / Merry Christmas --Nick, WA5BDU

-----Original Message-----

From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU] On Behalf
Of Paul, VE1DY

If I wanted to use the tenna dipper to find the resonance of a folded dipole, could I change the 50 ohm resistor to 300 ohms and then look for the led to dim?

If I was looking for the resonance of a mobile antenna and figured the impedance to be around 20 ohms, could I change the 50 ohm resistor to say 20 ohms and then look for a dip.

I was thinking of a variable resistor or several resistors on a switch. Is this practical?

Thanks and Merry Christmas to all.

73, 72... Paul

Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 18:28:50 -0800
From: Steve Smith <sigcom@juno.com>
To: w6toy@erols.com
Cc: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [163842] Re: Straight key source
Message-ID: <20031225.182851.-4057819.0.sigcom@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

OB QRP: J-38 keys are great for QRP rigs because their small contact points can easily handle the keying current of most QRP rigs.

Bruce,

I would venture to say that J-38s were produced by dozens of manufacturers during WW-II, not just 2 or 3.

I've owned several Lionels and in my opinion they're OK but don't hold a candle to the J-38s made by those companies who were actually in the business of making keys such as McElroy, J.H. Bunnell and Signal Electric to mention just a few. Don't get me wrong, the Lionel is a good key but I think it's reputation comes more from the name recognition rather than the comparative quality.

Be that as it may, in my opinion any CW enthusiast should own a J-38. They're historical, rugged and generally good telegraph instruments. Since millions of the things made, there are still plenty of 'em available out there on the used market at reasonable prices, even on the auction sites. Within the last month or two I've seen some for sale that were in fair, restorable condition for less than 15 Dollars apiece.

The majority of J-36 keys were either Vibroplex Lightning Bugs or clones of the same, the most popular and recognizable being the Lionel. The Signal Corps J-36 was a designator for "bug" and not a specific design. It is interesting that some "bug" manufacturers, such as Bunnell, sold not only their own bugs to the government as J-36s but also manufactured clones of the Vibroplex design!

I'm curious, what version Lionel J-38 do you have?

73.....Steve Smith, WB6TNL/O Hoxie, KS
"Snort Rosin"

On Thu, 25 Dec 2003 18:12:13 -0500 Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
writes:

> As I said in an earlier message, the original WW2 production of J-38
> keys was split up among two or three different vendors, Lionel
> Manufacturing being one. Lionel manufactured model trains at the
> time.

>

> I have an original Lionel model which I bought when I was first
> licensed in 1956. I paid 79 cents for this "key that filled a
> thousand
> dreams"! I believe the Lionel to have been among the best finished
> of
> all the J-38's. This was probably due to their experience building
> model
> trains, where finish is next to godliness!

>

> The reason I see behind their smooth action is they were made to be
> used
> as a training key. They trained hundreds of young radio operators!

>

>

> I also have heard that there was another production run to support
> the
> Korean Conflict trainees. These may be the Artec keys. I gave a
> second
> J038 if undocumented manufacture and can say the action is nowhere
> heard
> the Lionel's.

>

> Lionel also made some of the J-36 bugs. This was a design by
> another
> bug manufacturer. I have a Lionel which I bought because it went
> with
> my J038 and because I am a model train enthusiast. Unfortunately I
> only
> bought this about 1995. They had suffered some appreciation by
> then, I
> had to pay over \$100 for it!

>

> 73

The best thing to hit the internet in years - Juno SpeedBand!
Surf the web up to FIVE TIMES FASTER!
Only \$14.95/ month - visit www.juno.com to sign up today!

Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 21:48:22 -0500
From: Marty N5NW <n5nw@n5nw.org>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [163843] Mobile Antenna, multi-mode TNC for sale
Message-ID: <1072406902.2573.5.camel@dhcppc3>
Content-Type: text/plain
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have a couple of items for sale. First is a Spider mobile antenna with resonators for 40, 20, 15 and 10m. The 15m resonator is electrically fine, but mechanically not sturdy enough to withstand actual mobile use. The others are fine. No bandswitch required, and the bandwidth is quite good with a good ground (about 100 kHz on 40m). Adjustment is super easy via sliding sleeve.

Asking \$100 plus shipping.

Also have an MFJ-1278 multi-mode controller for the guys and gals that want to work an error-correcting mode like AMTOR or such. Cables for IC-706 and TS-570 included, as is power supply and manual. No software.

Asking \$75 plus shipping.

If you want both, \$160 and I'll pay shipping.

Thanks, folks. Hope everyone is having a nice holiday season.

de N5NW (Marty)
Bellbrook, Ohio

Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 21:58:26 -0500 (EST)
From: "Paul, VE1DY" <ve1dy@myway.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [163844] RE: Tenna Dipper Question
Message-ID: <20031226025826.E5A58396F@mprdmxin.myway.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thanks to all who replied to my query.

It looks like this idea will work just fine.

72, Paul

--- On Thu 12/25, Paul, VE1DY < ve1dy@myway.com > wrote:
From: Paul, VE1DY [mailto: ve1dy@myway.com]
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 05:19:25 -0500 (EST)
Subject: Tenna Dipper Question

If I wanted to use the tenna dipper to find the resonance of a folded dipole, could I change the 50 ohm resistor to 300 ohms and then look for the led to dim?

If I was looking for the resonance of a mobile antenna and figured the impedance to be around 20 ohms, could I change the 50 ohm resistor to say 20 ohms and then look for a dip.

I was thinking of a variable resistor or several resistors on a switch. Is this practical?

Thanks and Merry Christmas to all.

73, 72...

Paul

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No banners. No pop-ups. No kidding.
Introducing My Way - <http://www.myway.com>

Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 19:06:34 -0800
From: Bob Nielsen <nielsen@oz.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [163845] Single-lever paddles
Message-ID: <20031226030634.GA25803@bob>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Disposition: inline

There has been a lot of discussion on the list recently about paddles, but I was wondering which single-lever paddles are preferred? I currently have four dual-lever paddles (Bencher, Begali, LTA and AzsQRPion--still in construction), but the only single lever paddle I have is a White Rook, which is nice and small, but for me it is probably a bit too small and the spacing is more than I would like, but not adjustable. Of these, the Begali is my favorite, but I have never really mastered iambic use and feel that a good single lever paddle may be a better choice for me. Any recommendations are appreciated.

72/73, Bob N7XY

--

Bob Nielsen, N7XY
Bainbridge Island, WA

n7xy (at) n7xy.net
<http://www.n7xy.net>

Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 22:44:24 -0500
From: "Dennis Ponsness" <wb0wao@hotmail.com>
To: w6toy@erols.com, qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [163846] Re: Straight key source
Message-ID: <Law11-F37HyuTsn40CN000440d4@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

Bruce and others,

Lionel J-38's are running around \$40+ on Ebay now and there are usually several up for auction all the time. I think they get a "premium" for them because of the name. I was lucky earlier in the month as there was a J-36 on there that had a bent up top triangle plate and I got it for under \$40. It was real easy to fix and now works FB and looks like "new". It doesn't have a name plate on it, but it is a Lionel (they are the only ones that had 5 "pins" to hold the nameplate on the base). The nameplate on the Lionel J-36's was some type of plastic that was not "stable" and most of them have long since disintegrated. Ones with a good nameplate do bring a premium!

72 es oo

Dennis - WB0WAO

EN84ij Iosco County, Michigan
MultiPig+ #3 - K2 #3555
DSW-II-20 - SW-40+ - SW-30+
RM-20 - RM-40

FPQRP #-347 FISTS #9299

Charter Member - Michigan DX Association
www.wb0wao.com
:=)

Expand your wine savvy and get some great new recipes at MSN Wine.
<http://wine.msn.com>

Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 20:30:50 -0800
From: Eric Swartz WA6HHQ - Elecraft <eric@elecraft.com>
To: QRP-L <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [163847] Re: New QST Elecraft K2/00, KPA/100 review
Message-ID: <3FEBB97A.5030300@elecraft.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

We have just updated our rig comparison table on the Elecraft web page with the test numbers from this review. They included a full retest of the K2 with new dynamic range tests at 5 kHz spacing.

73, Eric
http://www.elecraft.com/K2_perf.htm

lhlousek wrote:

> The February 2004 QST review of the K2/100 is posted on the member's only
> section of the ARRL website. RX spex look OK.
>
> Lou W7HV

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 05:21:26 -0600
From: "Tony Martin W4FOA" <w4foa@comcast.net>
To: <nielsen@oz.net>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [163848] Re: Single-lever paddles
Message-ID: <002a01c3cba2\$67301250\$6401a8c0@De1ldude>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Bob,
I have quite a few paddles and my favorite is the Kent, single lever. It is extremely smooth, attractive and the thing I like most of all is that I have never had to "readjust" it one single time after I did the initial

adjustment. Can't say that for my Bencher, Vibroplex, Jones or other paddles.

Just my opinion...
Tony, W4FOA

----- Original Message -----

From: "Bob Nielsen" <nielsen@oz.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, December 25, 2003 9:06 PM
Subject: Single-lever paddles

> There has been a lot of discussion on the list recently about paddles,
> but I was wondering which single-lever paddles are preferred? I
> currently have four dual-lever paddles (Bencher, Begali, LTA and
> AzsQRPion--still in construction), but the only single lever paddle I
> have is a White Rook, which is nice and small, but for me it is
> probably a bit too small and the spacing is more than I would like, but
> not adjustable. Of these, the Begali is my favorite, but I have never
> really mastered iambic use and feel that a good single lever paddle may
> be a better choice for me. Any recommendations are appreciated.
>
> 72/73, Bob N7XY
>
> --
> Bob Nielsen, N7XY n7xy (at) n7xy.net
> Bainbridge Island, WA http://www.n7xy.net
>

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 07:34:52 -0500 (Eastern Standard Time)
From: "Pastor-kc1di" <elbc2@gwi.net>
To: <nielsen@oz.net>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [163849] Re: Single-lever paddles
Message-ID: <3FEC2AEC.000011.02716@DOR>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: Text/Plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

=0D

=0D

-----Original Message-----=0D

=0D

From: nielsen@oz.net=0D
Date: Friday, December 26, 2003 00:05:19=0D
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion=0D
Subject: Single-lever paddles=0D
=0D

There has been a lot of discussion on the list recently about paddles,=0D
but I was wondering which single-lever paddles are preferred? I=0D
currently have four dual-lever paddles (Bencher, Begali, LTA and=0D
AzsQRPion--still in construction), but the only single lever paddle I=0D
have is a White Rook, which is nice and small, but for me it is=0D
probably a bit too small and the spacing is more than I would like, but=0D
not adjustable. Of these, the Begali is my favorite, but I have never=0D
really mastered iambic use and feel that a good single lever paddle may=0D
be a better choice for me. Any recommendations are appreciated.=0D

=0D
72/73, Bob N7XY=0D

=0D
--=0D

=0D
=0D
Hi Bob,=0D

=0D
I Like the VGA single Lever job out of Belarus Morse express has them you
can look here <http://mtechnologies.com/vgakeys/>=0D

=0D
Usual disclaimers=0D
73 , HNY , Dave kc1di =0D

=0D
=0D
=0D
=2E

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 06:50:41 -0500
From: Joseph Mikuckis <k3chp@rcn.com>
To: QRP-L Mailing List <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [163850] BC QRM on 80 meters
Message-ID: <3FEC2091.CD7BE023@rcn.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

This morning I had a QSO with K1VK on 3530 KHz. He kept asking me if I
had any QRM from a broadcast station. I did not. When we finished, I
left my receiver on and at about 1100 UTC a broadcast station faded-in
with slow, clear English and beautiful old-time music. It lasted for
about 30 minutes. Unfortunately I was not able to get the station's

ID. I checked Passport to World Radio reference but nothing was listed for 3530 KHz. Does anyone have any information on this station?

Joe, K3CHP
Frederica, DE

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 08:26:18 -0500
From: John Sielke <jsielke@pobox.com>
To: ARLHS <arlhs@mailman.qth.net>, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [163851] Lighthouse Operation
Message-ID: <200312260826.18251.jsielke@pobox.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline

I will be operating from EAST POINT LIGHT, NJ (USA-262) tomorrow, December 27 from 1500-????Z (Until I get too cold). Will be CW ONLY on 14035 or 7035 (+-QRM). Callsign will be K2C. This is for both the Lighthouse Christmas Lights Operations and the MQFD.

John W2AGN
ARLHS #142

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 09:16:35 -0500
From: "Alan Fryer" <N3BJ@hotmail.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [163852] Nor'Easter 6M AM Transceiver
Message-ID: <Law9-0E12za0WFXCwBy00017d04@hotmail.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Wonder if anyone on the list has any experience with this rig by Rick Littlefield? He also published an article on the "Teen-Twoer", both in Communications Quarterly.

Please let me know if you have one or have the original articles.

Thanks,

Alan, N3BJ
Bent Mountain, VA

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 09:21:13 -0500
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: wb0wao@hotmail.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [163853] Re: Straight key source
Message-ID: <3FEC43D9.46BA347@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dennis,

IMHO the Lionel J-38 was the best finished of the lot. It came ready to use out of the box. I have owned my first key, a Lionel J-38, since 1956. That makes it, now, going on 48 years old, and it is as smooth as ever. The finish is nearly as good as it was when I took it out of the box.

I have owned and used other manufacturers J-38's. I find them hard to adjust and maintain their adjustments. Personally, I don't like them as much as my Lionel. YMMV. A key, to me, is a close personal item!

As to J-36's having nameplates that were unstable, I believe this is folk lore. I am only going on a sample of two, but they both had nearly perfect plates. Mine is one of them. The nameplate is not immaculate, but it is there, complete and legible. Perhaps the gentleman I bought it from had a nameplate fetish. Mine also has the cloth covered tinsel wire cord and wedge attached. Perhaps these were responsible for the price (over 100). Also remember I bought mine in the pre ebay era.

73

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 09:38:55 -0500
From: Dan Wolfe <n4roa@mounet.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [163854] Re: WTB: Wilderness Sierra

Message-ID: <3FEC47FF.3D63@mounet.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Howdy Tim,

I have one of the Wilderness Sierr Radios that I just do not use any more. It has the KC-2 digital display. I have three modules, 20, 40, and 10M. The 10M module never did not work when I finished it and never did try to determine why as I bought one of the K2's at about the same time.

It has two very small scratches at top rear of case. The 20 and 40M modules work fine and I have the manul. I think it should be worth around \$275 shipped to you.

73...Dan, N4ROA

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 09:57:18 -0500
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: nielsen@oz.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [163855] Re: Single-lever paddles
Message-ID: <3FEC4C4E.A1C2F4E9@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Here's another personal view. I have owned and used both single and dual lever paddles. I believe to be effective a paddle (or straight key for that matter) must either be largish and heavy or firmly mounted to the operating desk. A key or paddle that "walks" all over your operating table does not promote good code. Look at photographs of commercial CW stations, or old ship's keys, or military strains.

Now, about single lever paddles. I own and have used the Vibroplex. It is like using the back end of a very fine bug! It is also very heavy. I could never really get used to it. I switched over to a Bencher BY-1 which I find ear sir to use and adjust. I do not use the BY-1 consistently in the iambic mode. I find the speed advantage of iambic to be so slight that I revert to using it as a single lever paddle with two levers!

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 10:06:55 -0500
From: Ted Albert <ted.albert@fuse.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [163856] Re: Single-lever paddles
Message-ID: <200312261006.55663.ted.albert@fuse.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline

I use the Kent single-lever paddle. I purchased the kit version of the paddle years ago at Dayton and have been very satisfied with it.

72 de Ted, AB8FJ

On Thursday 25 December 2003 10:06 pm, Bob Nielsen wrote:
> There has been a lot of discussion on the list recently about
> paddles, but I was wondering which single-lever paddles are
> preferred? I currently have four dual-lever paddles (Bencher,
> Begali, LTA and AzsQRPion--still in construction), but the only
> single lever paddle I have is a White Rook, which is nice and small,
> but for me it is probably a bit too small and the spacing is more
> than I would like, but not adjustable. Of these, the Begali is my
> favorite, but I have never really mastered iambic use and feel that a
> good single lever paddle may be a better choice for me. Any
> recommendations are appreciated.
>
> 72/73, Bob N7XY

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 15:12:30 -0000
From: "TF3VS" <tf3vst@vortex.is>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [163857] RE: Study of Morse code
Message-ID: <OLENIKAKDIJHDACGFBKLIIEO0CDAA.tf3vst@vortex.is>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

This method has been used in Iceland for many many years. We use of course Icelandic mnemonics and it begins always with the relevant letter. It is also accompanied by a funny anecdote. Another thing, we teach the letters at once at full speed using this method, each character is transmitted at the rate of 80 char/min (16 words) even for the 25 cpm test. This seems to work very well

vy 73, de Villi TF3VS

There is a single question about study of Morse code system.
In Russia we use the system which I would name as
"phrases-sounds-like-morse-code". For example,
M - - (sound like "Ma-ma")

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 10:17:16 -0500
From: "Michael Bower N4NMR" <bowerm@ix.netcom.com>
To: <nielsen@oz.net>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [163858] RE: Single-lever paddles
Message-ID: <ODE0IKLMAJFGCNMOGAGIIEPJEEAA.bowerm@ix.netcom.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Paddlette (www.paddlette.com) makes a nice single lever paddle. I prefer it over the White Rook. Much more solid feel to it.

> -----Original Message-----
> From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU] On Behalf Of
> Bob Nielsen
> Sent: Thursday, December 25, 2003 10:07 PM
> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
> Subject: Single-lever paddles
>
>
> There has been a lot of discussion on the list recently about paddles,
> but I was wondering which single-lever paddles are preferred? I
> currently have four dual-lever paddles (Bencher, Begali, LTA and
> AzsQRPion--still in construction), but the only single lever paddle I
> have is a White Rook, which is nice and small, but for me it is
> probably a bit too small and the spacing is more than I would like, but
> not adjustable. Of these, the Begali is my favorite, but I have never

> really mastered iambic use and feel that a good single lever paddle may
> be a better choice for me. Any recommendations are appreciated.

>

> 72/73, Bob N7XY

>

> --

> Bob Nielsen, N7XY

n7xy (at) n7xy.net

> Bainbridge Island, WA

<http://www.n7xy.net>

>

>

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 09:36:15 -0600
From: "Andy Palm" <acpalm@concentric.net>
To: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [163859] Re: Single-lever paddles
Message-ID: <000301c3cbc6\$00c6d660\$b198ee42@andy>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

After using bugs for a number of years, I am also more comfortable with a single paddle. My base station has a Kent SP-1. It is solid and the dit and dah motions can be separately adjusted. This is an excellent key, but not portable.

For portable work I've been using a single paddle I built according to the directions of NB6M using PC board. Cutting the PCB material is a pain, but I've come to really like the paddle much, much more than I expected. It is the paddle I used as Bumblebee 109 last July. I "enhanced" the design by adding thin plastic finger pieces, using acorn nuts for the contacts, and putting gasket material on the bottom. When sending I hold it with my left hand, and sending feels very natural to me. See <http://www.norcalqrp.com/paddle/nb6m.htm> for the construction instructions.

I have a GHD convertible paddle that can be configured as an iambic or single paddle. Very well made and nice, but for my taste the plastic finger pieces have just a bit too much give. But that's me. My catalogs show that Bencher makes a single paddle, but I've never seen a picture of one and know nothing about them.

I can get along with iambic paddles, but when I get tired or distracted my fist goes south fast with them. With a single paddle I can send much better and for longer.

Good luck on your quest.

Andy N1KSN
Menasha, WI

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 15:43:22 +0000
From: Larry Cahoon <lejek@erols.com>
To: stanw@toxsor.com,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [163860] Re: Your milliwatt results ?
Message-ID: <5.1.0.14.0.20031226153609.01fd1338@pop.erols.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

At 10:26 AM 12/25/2003 -0800, stanw@toxsor.com wrote:

>I would be interested in learning about results of anyone running 100
>milliwatt power output levels or lower on 80, 40 or 30 meters.

Stan,

I do most of my mWattting on 20 meters, but I did check the log - 192 QSOs
one 40 meters and 27 on 80 meters at 100 mWatts or less. I've run
everything from 1 mWatt and up on those bands. Most are within a 500 mile
radius from the home QTH - although I have gotten a few over 1,000 miles
away.

All QSOs are logged at the highest power for the QSO - so no lowering the
power in the middle of the QSO to increase the mileage. That is just my
personal policy, There are lots of guys who feel free to drop the power in
the middle of the QSO to get the higher miles per watt figure.

The vast majority of the QSOs are with an Elecraft K1, although I've use
the K2, the OHR 500 and other rigs as well. Generally I run the K1 at 500
mWatts and cut the power with a Ten-Tec 290 step attenuator. Power out is
measured with the OHR WM-2. Usually I set it up to get the 500 mWatts with
the K1, but monitor it as I cut the power with the attenuator - the two
seem to track very well - what the attenuator claims I should get is very
close to what I get on the WM-2.

73 de Larry.....WD3P
<http://www.wd3p.net>

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 12:04:04 -0600
From: "Nick Kennedy" <wa5bdu@tcainternet.com>
To: "'Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion'" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [163861] Re: Straight key source
Message-ID: <002c01c3cbda\$a6512270\$0400000a@wa5bdu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I wonder if you J-38 experts can look at mine and tell who made it.

My key page is ...

<http://www.tcainternet.com/wa5bdu/mymorse.htm>

The frame and moving part (armature?) are all some sort of dull silver color and the rest is brass. Interesting though, I just checked with a magnet and the moving part is strongly magnetic--steel, I guess, but the frame/base is not. I guess that's what is commonly called pot metal then.

When I put my key page together I forgot to photograph my J-37. Not nearly as nice in design as the J-38, but has a surprisingly good feel in use. (Now that I've finished the Arizona/W5JH paddle, I need to add it to the gallery as well.)

My first straight key, since you're dying to know, was a huge monstrosity from the B-A (Burstein-Applebee) catalog. It was actually a code practice unit on a big bakelite base that held a 'D' cell battery on the far end and had a little buzzer for the monitor tone under a round bakelite cover near that. Just unhook the buzzer and connect up the DX-40 and you're all set to go.

For SKN, I'll be using the J-38 with my HT-40 or maybe the DX-35 and VF-1. Receiving on the Drake 2B and for crowning boatanchor touch, the Johnson Matchbox will be in line.

72 & Happy Holidays,

Nick, WA5BDU

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 09:09:18 -0700
From: "Rod NØRC" <rc7039-hr@yahoo.com>
To: "qrp-1" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>, <elecraft@mailman.qth.net>
Subject: [163862] s9+ carrier on 10.104 MHz
Message-ID: <000901c3cbca\$9f4b4b50\$6401a8c0@greyrock>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Folks,

I'm hearing this strong carrier in Ft Collins, CO @ 1600z 12/26/03 I hear it on two different RCVRS so I don't think it is a birdie in either, and I only hear it with antenna connected. Can't account for it by switching off computers and/or other equipment in my home.

Can anybody else hear/ID this mystery signal?

73, Rod NØRC
Happy Holidays

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 10:30:53 -0600 (CST)
From: Dale Botkin <dale@botkin.org>
To: QRP list <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [163863] RE: Study of Morse code
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.33.0312261025160.19700-100000@madmax.botkin.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I only learned a few characters using mnemonics, all punctuation.

Comma = "com-ma, make a com-ma"
Question mark = "did 'e do that, did 'e?"
Period = "The end, the end, the end"

My Elmer taught me those when he was teaching me to send Morse, they've stuck with me to this day. Those were the only ones we used, though.

Dale - n0xas

--

It's a thankless job, but I've got a lot of Karma to burn off.
PicoKeyer for the Rock-Mite just got cheaper! Add memory and
more -- <http://www.hamgadgets.com>

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 17:32:33 +0100
From: "Sverre Holm" <svholm2@broadpark.no>
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [163864] RE: Single-lever paddles
Message-ID: <000001c3cbcd\$dd490430\$8e00a8c0@Master>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Re the discussion on single-lever paddles.

It would be fun to try for me as a relative newcomer to hamming, but
does any of the PIC-based keyers support both imabic (A,B), and bug
modes as well as a straight key?

--

73,
Sverre

Sverre Holm, LA3ZA
www.qsl.net/la3za

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 16:43:09 +0000
From: Ed Lawson <k1vp@grizzly.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [163865] XGA1 Built and Working
Message-ID: <20031226164309.39c22ef4.k1vp@grizzly.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Santa brought me a little ham stocking stuffer...an Elecraft XG1.

@ 1 watt mobile SSB and CW =

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 12:07:39 -0500
From: Al Scanandoah <k2zn@rochester.rr.com>
To: qrp-l <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [163867] Looking for HW-9 Articles
Message-ID: <3FEC6ADB.6030701@rochester.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Does anyone have scanned copies of one or both of these articles?

"Modifications and Improvements to the HW-9," QEX, October 1990, pp. 3-9

"HW-9 Modifications Update" (Correspondence) QEX, May 1991, pp. 16-17

72 & Tnx

Al, K2ZN

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 10:27:25 -0700
From: "Augie Hansen" <augie.hansen@comcast.net>
To: "'Rod N0RC'" <rc7039-hr@yahoo.com>, "'qrp-l'" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>,
<elecraft@mailman.qth.net>
Subject: [163868] RE: [Elecraft] s9+ carrier on 10.104 MHz
Message-ID: <200312261727.hBQHRP0V014827@rain.CC.Lehigh.EDU>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Rod,

> I'm hearing this strong carrier in Ft Collins, CO @ 1600z 12/26/03 I
> hear it on two different RCVRS so I don't think it is a birdie in
> either, and I only hear it with antenna connected. Can't account for it
> by switching off computers and/or other equipment in my home.
>

> Can anybody else hear/ID this mystery signal?

The carrier is about S9 here in Denver at 1723Z on my IC775DSP with an inverted vee dipole at 55 feet. It's not a birdie in your receiver. I can't identify its source.

73, Gus / KB0YH

Email: KB0YH@arrl.net

Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 00:34:39 -0500
From: Alex <kr1st@amsat.org>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [163869] Re: straight key before paddle
Message-ID: <3FEA76EF.1F049258@amsat.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Bruce Muscolino wrote:

> Would you go off to war without a thorough understanding
> of, and proficiency with, your rifle?

Just ignore my signal until you feel I have a thorough understanding and proficiency in CW, Bruce. I'll probably make some mistakes the first QSO or two, or twenty.

> I believe this concept has been
> discarded from most learner's guides.

The concept of being able to get on HF only after passing a code test will soon be discarded. Maybe now is the time to stop discouraging people to get on the air on CW unless they are proficient.

Most people I know learned how to drive on the road, which is shared with other traffic. The only thing discussed here is whether to start out with a stick shift or automatic.

73,
--Alex KR1ST
<http://www.kr1st.com>

Date: Thu, 25 Dec 2003 00:44:24 -0500
From: Alex <kr1st@amsat.org>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [163870] Do you have the Sept 1972 issue of Hamradio?
Message-ID: <3FEA7938.6C973B9F@amsat.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

If you do, would you mind telling me which project is being described on page 64?

See I found this lil' metal project box with three BNC connectors in a box full of stuff I bought at an estate sale about a year ago. The box is marked "See Ham Radio Sept 1972 P64". It looks like some sort of a mixer as the connectors are marked LO, IF, and RF. It contains 4 diodes and two RF transformers (one on LO input and one on the RF input).

73,
--Alex KR1ST
<http://www.kr1st.com>

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 14:05:01 -0500
From: "Charles W3KC" <w3kc@starpower.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [163871] Re: Single-lever paddles
Message-ID: <001b01c3cbe3\$427849a0\$4d062c42@w3kc>

I like the Kent. I also use a chrome Vibroplex paddle with the jeweled movement. The jeweled movement makes a big difference. My first single lever paddle was the front of a salvaged Vibroplex bug that I sawed in half with a hacksaw. I built an electronic keyer to use with it (vacuum tubes and a mercury wetted relay). Used it for many years before going to the CMOS II keyer which I still use. I tried iambic paddles for a while but never got the hang of it.
-72 and Happy Holidays-
Charles W3KC

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 13:47:37 -0600
From: "Mike Duke, K5XU" <k5xu@jam.rr.com>
To: "qrp list" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [163872] Carrier on 10.104?

Message-ID: <002701c3cbe9\$1ec5bdc0\$83d0a418@jam.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

It's now 19:45Z, and I can hear it in Jackson, MS at an average of 5/7 with
qsb.

Mike Duke, K5XU
American Council of Blind Radio Amateurs

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 14:48:35 -0500
From: "Fred \ (VE3FAL\)" <flesnick@tbaytel.net>
To: "'Mike Duke, K5XU'" <k5xu@jam.rr.com>,
"'Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion'" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [163873] RE: Carrier on 10.104?
Message-ID: <006c01c3cbe9\$409bd9c0\$d905d3d8@flesnick>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

It is 1947 and in EN58df(Thunder Bay,Ontario) it is a solid s-8...

Fred
VE3FAL

-----Original Message-----
From: owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU] On Behalf
Of Mike Duke, K5XU
Sent: December 26, 2003 2:48 PM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Carrier on 10.104?

It's now 19:45Z, and I can hear it in Jackson, MS at an average of 5/7
with
qsb.

Mike Duke, K5XU
American Council of Blind Radio Amateurs

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 12:55:46 -0700
From: "NR5A" <nr5a@rap.midco.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [163874] Frustrated!
Message-ID: <004e01c3cbea\$40f41670\$3865dc18@jerry>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Last 2 mornings I've watched other stations working dx like crazy on 15m PSK, yet I can't even tell they are there!! My antenna is a 80m inverted vee with apex up 24ft and runs east to west more or less. Ok picture this, I'm on a 1/4 acre lot with no trees in my yard, well, I have 2 trees but I'm taller than they are. In the center of the lot is my mobile home. In the center of the mobile home and on the side of it is my 24ft pole. I would give up 80m since I never operate it. The 80m inverted vee works great on all bands except for dx, I can make all the state side contacts I want anytime, any band but not dx. hi I don't want the hassles or expense of a beam. I guess the only option is a vertical huh? Any ideas or suggestions, or verticals for sale cheap? I'm so frustrated I really don't know why I wrote this. hi

Jerry - NR5A - South Dakota

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 15:08:32 -0500
From: "carl seyersdahl" <carlseye@tampabay.rr.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [163875] adaptors
Message-ID: <005401c3cbec\$0f605e00\$073eca44@tampabay.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Does anyone here know of an adapter from SMA male to BNC female?? I 've never seen one but , I'm building up an sw20+ and would prefer to use an sma female on the panel in the interest of panel space!!!! thanks !!!!
carl / kz5ca

Graphics by Loek Frederiks

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 15:29:23 -0500
From: John Sielke <jsielke@pobox.com>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [163877] Re: straight key before paddle
Message-ID: <3FEC9A23.8050209@pobox.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> There is only one method of developing a fist you won't be picking out
> of your eye. Practice off the air until you can send 5 minutes of
> perfect CW without making an error. Then, and only then, should you go
> on the air. Would you go off to war without a thorough understanding
> of, and proficiency with, your rifle? I believe this concept has been
> discarded from most learner's guides.

Amen! I don't know if I would insist on 5 minutes error free, but at
least 1 out of the five...kinda like the old CW sending tests used to be.

I know some whiners will by saying that this discourages people getting
on CW. Balony! (or Bologna, if you prefer). Hopefully, someone wanting
to get on CW will want to sound as good as possible. If they are the
sort that is happy with being sloppy in all their life's pursuits, then
they will send sloppy CW, too, no matter what anyone says.

Learn by doing ?? Great idea. Just like learning to drive a car by
doing. When you can drive 5 miles without an accident, you're ready for
a license....Dare I mention Pilot training?

John W2AGN

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 14:35:13 -0600
From: Richard Lim <richlim11@yahoo.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [163878] Morse HELL (of sorts)
Message-ID: <02071FB8-37E3-11D8-965B-000A95B92C0E@yahoo.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0 (Apple Message framework v609)
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I always thought that being able to copy the code was a blessing until this Christmas.....

Some "evil" person thought it would be a great gift to give my aging mother a keychain which "beeps" to help you locate your keys. Well let me tell you the hearing "46 46 46" in morse code over and over and over is anything but pleasant to the ears!! Unfortunately, I can't change the sensitivity of the keychain nor can I change the message. I now know what the Vestibule of Dante's Inferno is all about LOL LOL!!!!

Merry Christmas and God Bless all!!

Rich

72/73 DE KQ9L K1 #1669, K2 #3232
KX1 #21, FIST 10193, FP 548,
QRP ARCI 11129

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 15:37:38 -0500
From: Lee Mairs <lmairs@direcway.com>
To: qrp1 <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [163879] Hotweezers
Message-ID: <013901c3cbf0\$1d966150\$3b6d020a@J4>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

I've been lusting after a set of these ever since reading a post here about them. I finally "won" and eBay auction for a set (\$70 including shipping). This was to be one of my Christmas presents; however, I just got an email from the seller saying that he did a final check and they don't heat up. He tried them with 3 different Hotweezer power units. I have the choice of accepting "as is" for \$40 or getting all my money back.

I can't find anybody who sells these new even after a thorough Google Search. The company is located in West Lake Village, CA, according to Switchboard.com, but nobody answers.

Can any of you wise ones tell me what a new set costs and where I can get them? How about spare parts availability.

Appreciate the help.
73 de Lee, km4yy/8

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 15:01:48 -0600
From: "Don Wines" <dwines@tyler.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [163880] Re: Carrier on 10.104?
Message-ID: <001401c3cbf3\$7a4c0640\$b0374c42@coxinternet.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

It's 2055Z and it's still an S8 with slight QSB to S7 here in Northeast Texas.

72
Don, K5DW
k5dw@arrl.net

Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 16:07:12 -0500
From: "Ken Newman" <n2cq@dandy.net>
To: "List QRP-Canada" <qrp-canada@neale.gpfn.sk.ca>,
 "K8NI Norm Into" <normk8ni@neo.rr.com>,
Subject: [163881] [CONTEST] N2CQ QRP Contest Calendar Dec 27-31, 2003
Message-ID: <009701c3cbf4\$3f956540\$64ea80d1@kensdell>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

~~~~~  
N2CQ QRP CONTEST CALENDAR  
December 27-31, 2003  
~~~~~

40 METER FOXHUNT - Wednesday 0200z to 0400z (Tue eve USA)
Info: <http://www.cqc.org>

Truffle Hunt - 30 min before Fox Hunt
Info: http://fpqrp.com/pig_hunt.html
~~~~~

RAC Canada Winter Contest (ALL) ... QRP Category  
Dec 27, 0000z to 2359z

Rules: <http://www.rac.ca/CANWIN.htm>  
See <http://www.rac.ca/qrpca/rwrqrp.htm>  
for more awards from QRP-Canada

~~~~~  
Stew Perry (W1BB) Topband Distance Challenge (CW) ... QRP Category
Dec 27, 1500z to Dec 28, 1500z
Rules: <http://jzap.com/k7rat/stew.rules.txt>

~~~~~  
Original QRP Contest (CW - 80, 40 & 20m) ... QRP Category  
Dec 27, 1500z to Dec 28, 1500z  
Rules: <http://www.qrpcc.de/>

~~~~~  
Holiday Milliwatt CW Contest *** QRP Contest ***
Dec 28, 1800 to 0200 z
Dec 29, 1800 to 0200 z
Dec 30, 1800 to 0200 z
Rules: <http://www.knightlites.org/>
~~~~~

Thanks to SM3CER, WA7BNM, N0AX(ARRL), WB3AAL and others  
for assistance in compiling this calendar.

Please forward the contest info you sponsor to N2CQ@ARRL.NET and  
we will post it and give it more publicity.

Anyone may use this "N2CQ QRP Contest Calendar" for your website,  
newsletter, e-mail list or other media as you choose.  
(Include a credit to the source of this material of course.)

72 de

Ken Newman - N2CQ  
N2CQ@ARRL.NET

<http://www.amqrp.org/contesting/contesting.html>  
<http://www.n3epa.org/Pages/Contest/contest.htm>

-----  
Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 13:18:04 -0800  
From: Bob Nielsen <nielsen@oz.net>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [163882] Re: Single-lever paddles  
Message-ID: <20031226211804.GB9490@bob>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Disposition: inline

Thanks for all the helpful replies. I have ordered a VGA paddle from  
Morse Technologies (and am planning to keep at least some of my dual

paddles, as well).

Bob, N7XY

-----  
Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 13:24:49 -0800  
From: Bob Nielsen <nielsen@oz.net>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [163883] Re: Single-lever paddles  
Message-ID: <20031226212449.GA9979@bob>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Disposition: inline

On Fri, Dec 26, 2003 at 01:18:04PM -0800, Bob Nielsen wrote:  
> Thanks for all the helpful replies. I have ordered a VGA paddle from  
> Morse Technologies (and am planning to keep at least some of my dual  
> paddles, as well).

I inadvertantly combined the two names on the web site, Milestone  
Technologies and Morse Express!

-----  
Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 15:00:46 -0700  
From: "ki0ky" <ki0ky@earthlink.net>  
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [163884] AZ ScQRPion Paddles  
Message-ID: <0000001c3cbfb\$b7a85cc0\$8a48fea9@desktop>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
          charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Paddle No. 221 is up and running. Neat! Thanks all you AZ ScQRPions. They  
are a real incentive to participate in FYBO. In reading warning in the  
instructions regarding heat retention of solid brass, I wonder what kind of  
multiplier I will get by putting my certified FYBO thermometer on the base of  
the paddles after letting them set outside the night before FYBO?

72

Steve KI0KY

PS: What are the ScQRPion plans for this summer in light of the AZ  
convention moving to Winslow?

-----  
Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 17:03:48 -0500  
From: Ed <edw3nr@nexband.com>  
To: QRP <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [163885] Digi tall Dial  
Message-ID: <3FECB044.8000403@nexband.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I'm looking for 1 to go with the TT Argonaut 509. Anyone have 1 that is surplus to their needs ?? I'm having a difficult time knowing where I am on 30 meters.

Thanks  
Ed W3NR

-----  
Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 17:09:36 -0500  
From: Ed <edw3nr@nexband.com>  
To: "qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [163886] Power Supply  
Message-ID: <3FECB1A0.2010005@nexband.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Anyone have a 1 amp PS excess to their needs ??

Ed W3NR

-----  
Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 17:07:44 -0500  
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>  
To: kr1st@amsat.org  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [163887] Re: Do you have the Sept 1972 issue of Hamradio?  
Message-ID: <3FECB130.9CD1B4F@erols.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I don't have access to my collection at the moment, but what you describe is a traditional double balanced mixer.

73

-----  
Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 17:35:21 -0500  
From: "carl seyersdahl" <carlseye@tampabay.rr.com>  
To: <svholm2@broadpark.no>,  
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [163888] Re: Single-lever paddles  
Message-ID: <006401c3cc00\$8c3118c0\$073eca44@tampabay.rr.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

This is just one Hams opinion, But when it comes to simplicity, the Tick one or two is about as simple as you can get. I've got several tick ones (the simplest one) and I feel no need for the more complicated ones. the "tiny ticks" have all the features mentioned, and I don't think I'll ever need anything fancier.!!!

No financial intersert, etc, etc.!!!!!!

carl / kz5ca

----- Original Message -----

From: "Sverre Holm" <svholm2@broadpark.no>  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Sent: Friday, December 26, 2003 11:32 AM  
Subject: RE: Single-lever paddles

> Re the discussion on single-lever paddles.

>

> It would be fun to try for me as a relative newcomer to hamming, but  
> does any of the PIC-based keyers support both imabic (A,B), and bug  
> modes as well as a straight key?

>

> --

> 73,

> Sverre

>

> -----

> Sverre Holm, LA3ZA

> [www.qsl.net/la3za](http://www.qsl.net/la3za)

>

>

-----  
Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 17:39:53 -0500  
From: John Sielke <jsielke@pobox.com>  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [163889] MQFD and OQRP  
Message-ID: <3FECB8B9.1030306@pobox.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I notice that the "Original QRP Contest" runs this weekend. I perfect match for the MQFD. Most of the OQRP testers are Europeans, but if 10 and 15 cooperate, you should be able to work a few. Check out their rules at <http://www.qrpcc.de/> .

John W2AGN

-----  
Date: Fri, 26 Dec 2003 17:59:51 -0500  
From: Rick McKee <kc8aon@juno.com>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [163890] RE: Straight key source  
Message-ID: <20031226.180013.10046.0.kc8aon@juno.com>

I had a Lionel J-38 and an E.F. Johnson J-38, I sold the Lionel and kept the Johnson due to it's superior feel and quality ! They were both good, but the E.F. Johnson is much better in all respects though ! The Lionel base was made of pot metal and painted, the E.F. Johnson's base is made of cast and machined solid brass. The Lionel had steel screws with light rust, the Johnson has solid brass screws. The contacts on the Lionel were brass, where the Johnson has silver contacts ! The Lionel had a fairly good feel, but a bit mushy, but the Johnson has a more solid snappy and positive feel to it ! Other straight keys I have used, are the Ameco which resembles a J-38, but doesn't come close in quality or feel. The British WW2 Mark II that is basically all bakelite except for the contacts and screws, and it had a fairly good feel except the spring tension was just too heavy even at it's lightest setting. And last but not least is a straight key built by me that is similar to some of the old wireless keys used on some of the early ships at sea. It doesn't rival my E.F. Johnson J-38 in feel, but is a pleasure to use when connected to my homebrew 6V6 transmitter !

72/73 de: Rick McKee, KC8A0N <> Willow Wood, Ohio <> Grid: EM88rl  
SW-20+, SW-30+, SW-40+, Norcal BLT, Yaesu FT-7, Homebrew 6V6 tube TX  
QRP-L #2112, FPqrp #33, AR QRP, AmQRP, Ohio Valley Fists, Zombie #718,  
MQFD #1

For info on MQFD, go to: <http://www.smartgroups.com/groups/mqfd>  
I'll give up CW & QRP when I'm dead ! MAYBE ! didididadidah

-----  
The best thing to hit the internet in years - Juno SpeedBand!  
Surf the web up to FIVE TIMES FASTER!  
Only \$14.95/ month - visit [www.juno.com](http://www.juno.com) to sign up today!

-----  
End of QRP-L Digest 3146  
\*\*\*\*\*  
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